

# Forward



## Guide Dogs turns 90! Jo and Flash help us celebrate

Guide Line – the new way  
to contact Guide Dogs

CustomEyes Books gets  
its own digital store

My Time to Play: a new service  
for children with sight loss



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# Parents, let's talk tech!

Technology is vital for children with a vision impairment. It supports learning, creativity, life skills and independence.

That's why we will soon be launching Tech for All. Whilst stocks last, we will offer a free Apple iPad or iPhone to children with a vision impairment (aged 3-18) to use outside of school.

All you need to do to apply is fill in a simple form, and provide proof of your child's vision impairment.

**Applications open soon,  
so find out more now at  
[guidedogs.org.uk/techforall](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/techforall)**



Registered charity in England and Wales (209617) and Scotland (SC038979). GD0442 05/21

## Editorial contributions:

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If you no longer wish to receive this magazine, or if you wish to change the format in which it's sent to you, please contact us on **0800 953 0113** or via [guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:guidedogs@guidedogs.org.uk).

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# A welcome from Tom



I can't tell you what a relief it is to write this greeting with cautious optimism about the UK coming out of the Covid-19 pandemic. Of course things can change (very quickly, too) but, at the time of writing, the green shoots of normal life were well and truly sprouting.

At Guide Dogs, we're in a celebratory mood and not just because some restrictions are starting to ease. This year is the 90th anniversary of the UK's first guide dog partnerships. On our front cover, there's a striking photo of actor Joanna Page with our 90th anniversary puppy, Flash, named after one of our first four guide dogs. We've made a heart-warming short animated film about Flash to kick off the celebrations – find out more on page 11.

It's fitting that our programme of investment into our sites is well underway, ensuring that we can help even more people with sight loss and their families into the next 90 years and beyond. Our new South West Regional Centre in Bristol has its official opening in early July, and our Reading Community Team has moved into a repurposed annexe alongside our Central Office on a site that's now known as the Reading Hub. At the end of March, Trustees approved our plans to redevelop our site in Redbridge in north east London and create a new regional hub. There's more in the pipeline, which I hope to be able to talk about next time.



The 66 extra trainee Guide Dog Mobility Specialists and Guide Dog Trainers we recruited recently are all well on their way with their training, and they're already helping our efforts to speed up training schedules and reduce waiting times. We're recruiting even more trainees this autumn as we gear up to achieve our target of 1,000 new partnerships every year.

Plus there's more good news, as some of the virtual ways of helping people with sight loss that we were forced to adopt last year have become so successful that they're here to stay. One great example of this is our My Time To Play service, which you can read more about on pages 28-29.

Since my last Forward greeting, the guide dog mum that my wife Charlotte and I care for, Dolly, has had a litter of 10 healthy puppies. You can follow one of them, Niko, a Sponsor a Puppy named after one of our early trainers. We were a little worried as Dolly was a first-time mum in lockdown but she did amazingly well, thanks to the tremendous support of our National Centre. We're so proud of the incredible part she's played in what we do as a charity.

I hope you all have a fantastic summer.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Wright". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Tom Wright CBE  
Chief Executive  
Guide Dogs  
@TomwrightUK on Twitter

# News

## Our 90th anniversary is set to be bloomin' brilliant!

As part of celebrations around this year's 90th anniversary of the UK's first guide dog partnerships, Guide Dogs will have a garden at RHS Chelsea Flower Show this September. The Guide Dogs 90th Anniversary Garden will be in the artisan small garden category. The designers, Jonathan Smith and Adam Woolcott, are Chelsea veterans with four coveted gold medals and three BBC/RHS People's Awards for Best Small Garden between them.

Our conceptual sensory garden will illustrate a journey from isolation and despair to enrichment, acceptance and joy. Set in the 1930s, it'll reflect

the beginnings of this charity with the first guide dog owners being veterans blinded in the Great War. Celebrating with a garden at Chelsea will also raise awareness of Guide Dogs as a charity and increase public understanding of sight loss, bringing the issue to new audiences.



You'll notice lots more references to the anniversary throughout this magazine and for all the latest plans, visit [guidedogs.org.uk](http://guidedogs.org.uk) from the autumn.

## Own your very own adorable cuddly toy Flash

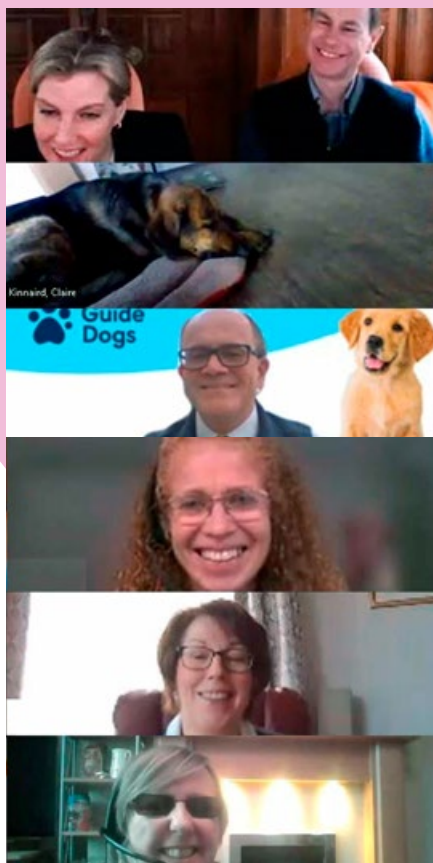
We've made a heart-warming animated film to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the UK's first guide dog partnerships this year (more on page 11). The film is called Flash, after one of those first four guide dogs, and we've released an adorable soft toy version of Flash which is available from the Guide Dogs Shop. This yellow Labrador toy is the perfect cuddly companion for little ones and collectors alike. Made from soft acrylic fabric,

Flash has cute puppy eyes and weighted paws.

This is an exciting year for the Guide Dogs Shop, as we'll be re-launching our online store with an updated design and much-improved shopping experience. We'll be introducing brand-new product ranges, including a 90th anniversary gift range in celebration of the milestone we have reached this year. All profits raised from purchases

go towards the many services Guide Dogs provides to help people with sight loss to live the life they choose. Visit [guidedogsshop.com](http://guidedogsshop.com).





## Welcoming royalty – virtually!

We were delighted to virtually welcome Their Royal Highnesses Edward and Sophie, the Earl and Countess of Wessex and Forfar, to meet some of the staff, volunteers and service users local to our Forfar centre in Scotland in January. On what was an official engagement, The Earl and Countess learned of the exceptional work of our staff and volunteers in the previous year, despite the challenges of Covid-19. This included coming up with creative ideas for fundraising, campaigning and the fostering of trainee guide dogs at short notice.

Claire Kinnaird, a fosterer from Dundee, told the royal couple: "I've been so well supported by Guide Dogs throughout, even when it has become remote. I live alone so a trainee guide dog was a fantastic companion for me, which I know he will also become for someone with sight loss."

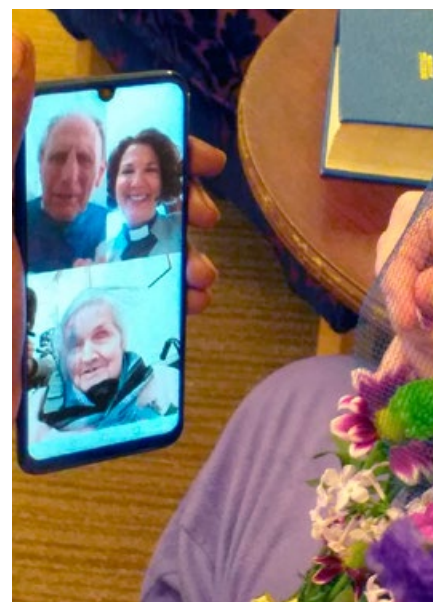
Their Royal Highnesses also heard from Nicky Smart, who had qualified with guide dog Shane, and Dianna Simpson, whose child was supported by Guide Dogs' Children and Young People services throughout the pandemic.

## Percy the guide dog... and best man

When Allen Richardson and his wife Margaret renewed their vows, Allen's guide dog Percy had a starring role... as best man! Margaret was receiving palliative care at a hospice in Wimbledon, London, when the ceremony took place last summer and, because Covid-19 restrictions were still in place, the couple couldn't be together. So the whole event was conducted via video technology linking up Allen, Margaret and the vicar of their local church. Hospice staff made a beautiful wildflower bouquet for

Margaret and after the vows, everyone shared a large homemade wedding cake. Allen said that Percy even managed to make it on to the video call.

Allen, who originally married Margaret in 1987, said: "I wanted to marry her again to impress on her how I felt about her. The hospice staff were brilliant. It was a full hour-long ceremony with hymns and everything. They did all they could to make sure that Margaret understood what was going on, as she



was also blind like me. Sadly Margaret passed away in August after a long illness, but I'm so pleased I got the chance to show her just how much I loved her."

## All aboard with pressing transport changes

Guide Dogs Cymru has been lobbying to make Wales a safer place for vision-impaired pedestrians and passengers.

This summer, 20mph speed limits will be introduced in eight trial areas and, from July 2022, councils in Wales will be able to target hot spots and issue increased fines for people who park on pavements unnecessarily. The move will be boosted by a public awareness campaign.

Guide Dogs Cymru is also pressing for tactile paving to be installed on all railway station platforms in Wales to warn vision-impaired passengers that they're nearing the platform edge. The danger was highlighted by the death of a man with sight loss who fell onto the track at a station near London last year. External Affairs Manager Andrea Gordon said: "Some 63% of station platforms in Wales currently have no tactile paving, and many stations are unstaffed.

"Inconsistency leads to confusion, and some passengers may wrongly assume that because there's no tactile paving, they are not near the platform edge. This puts them at unacceptable risk, particularly on rural stations."

## Good Dog! makes life with your dog a walk in the park

With 90 years of world-leading dog training expertise, we've created our very own training and welfare product for the nation's dogs and the owners who love them! Our monthly subscription service contains advice and guidance from our expert trainers through regular emails, step-by-step training videos and seasonal gifts sent in the mail. From advice on loose-lead walking and recall, to enrichment games and helping your dog deal with stress – there's so much to learn and enjoy with Good Dog!

## Making Guide Dogs even more accessible

Guide Dogs has teamed up with a specialist provider to make our information more accessible to people who are deaf-blind.

We support a number of people who are dual-impaired, so we want to ensure our information is accessible to anyone who needs it, including people who use British Sign Language. We're therefore delighted to be teaming up with video relay service provider SignVideo on an online interpretation service.

This means if you would like to contact Guide Dogs via British Sign Language, you can call us via SignVideo and an interpreter will appear in an instant.

You can find the link to the service on either the coronavirus page on our website [guidedogs.org.uk/contact-us](https://guidedogs.org.uk/contact-us), or on SignVideo's Directory on their app.



Good Dog! doesn't just help pet dog owners have a happy, well-behaved canine companion. The £10 per month subscription also allows us to provide vital support to people living with vision impairments, so they can live their life with confidence and freedom. Visit [guidedogs.org.uk/good-dog](https://guidedogs.org.uk/good-dog) to find out more.



# Raising a cup to National Tea Day

Guide Dogs celebrated National Tea Day in style again this year with our Virtual Tea Party.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to join us for a cuppa, take a tea selfie and show people with sight loss they are not alone. People joined us from home, from work and from their sunny gardens. Many of our wonderful volunteers and guide dog owners took part with lots accompanied by some of our life-changing dogs!

Unfortunately, we didn't break last year's Guinness World Record this time around. We knew it was going to be an epic challenge, but we're still the official record holders for the world's biggest virtual tea party as no-one anywhere in the world has come close to beating our amazing 2020 total.



Actor David Bradley raises a cuppa for Guide Dogs' Virtual Tea Party



April  
2021



Little Coco is ready to help out on the Easter egg hunt!

Guide Dogs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 ✓	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

04  
Easter  
Sunday

05  
Easter  
Monday

23  
St George's  
Day

29  
Marley's  
Birthday

# Guide Dogs in the media



We've released our first immersive reading book, *The Gruffalo*, complete with a sniff kit containing the smells of the characters – making bedtime stories inclusive and fun for the whole family and raising awareness of our children and young people's services. We launched the kit on BBC Breakfast, with coverage then spreading from more than a dozen local BBC radio stations to the World Service. The Sunday Express, Sky News, Daily Star and Sunday Mirror also featured the kit.

In April, ITV's Evening News programme covered how former guide dog puppy in training, Mason, had a new temporary job helping nurses at the Royal Bolton Hospital in Lancashire. Mason provided emotional support while he was waiting to be placed with a child with sight loss as a buddy dog. The piece featured on the ITV News website, and the story was also covered by Manchester Evening News online.



BBC 2's Great British Menu helped us celebrate our 90th anniversary, as the theme of this year's series was British innovation and invention. Competing chef Dan McGeorge took inspiration for his dessert course dish from our founders, Muriel Crooke and Rosamund Bond, as he's from Liverpool, where UK guide dog training began. The show featured an interview with North West Operations Manager Sally McCoy about our history. Dan won his regional heat and then his dish, titled Give a Dog a Bone, was chosen by judges for the dessert course at the show's finale banquet. At the end of the feast, guests then voted him Champion of Champions!



Sian Healey and guide dog Uri took part in Off The Leash, a regular feature on BBC 1's Morning Live in which dog walkers meet outdoors to discuss the issues of the day. Filming took place at Hailey Park in Cardiff, where Sian turned the debate to the difficulties of social distancing with sight loss.

# Celebrity support



## Joanna's new friend is so Flash

We kicked off our 90th anniversary celebrations by launching our wonderful Flash animation. Flash is an adorable guide dog pup named after one of the first four guide dogs back in 1931.

The three-minute film tells the story of Flash and her puppy raiser Annie, following them on their first year together. Gavin and Stacey star Joanna Page voiced a special audio version of the story, created specifically for people with sight loss. She even got a chance to meet the real-life Flash.

Joanna said: "It was such a pleasure to meet the adorable Flash. Her name carries so much history for Guide Dogs in its 90th year, and I'm delighted to help tell the story of Flash and other life-changing dogs like her. Of course Flash's incredible journey wouldn't be possible without Guide Dogs' amazing volunteers. I was so pleased to be the voice of Flash in the audio story, which means everyone can enjoy this wonderful tale."

To watch the animation, visit [guidedogs.org.uk/flash](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/flash).



### "You're all the kipper's knickers"

Celebrity chef Ainsley Harriott and Countdown's lexicographer Susie Dent recorded wonderful messages of thanks for our Virtual Volunteer Awards event in March. Susie thought it might be fun to give us some alternative names for the award categories – some words from the historical dictionary that, to her, still pack a punch. She ended by telling everyone they were 'the kipper's knickers', which dates back to 1920s America and indicates something excellent, admirable or first-rate.

### Jess's Silver Linings

Jess Impiazzi released her autobiography, *Silver Linings*, in January, with a chapter on why she became a Guide Dogs ambassador and her mum's guide dog journey.

## John Barnes reimagines his legendary rap

England football legend John Barnes reimagined his iconic rap from the 1990 FIFA World Cup song *World in Motion* to encourage people to take part in our Walk Your Socks Off challenge in May. John said: "It was my absolute pleasure to record a very special version of my rap from *World in Motion* especially for Guide Dogs' Walk Your Socks Off challenge, 31 years after its



original release for the 1990 FIFA World Cup. Walk Your Socks Off is something that anyone can do, by themselves or teaming up with others."

You can still watch John's Walk Your Socks Off rap at [TinyURL.com/WYSORap](https://www.tinyurl.com/WYSORap).

# On the campaign trail

We've been looking at the issues surrounding e-scooters, as well as campaigning for children and young people's support

## E-scooter awareness

As e-scooter rental trials continue, we've been working to raise awareness of the hazard that their misuse can cause to people with sight loss. We have seen reports across the country of e-scooters being ridden on pavements and parked inconsiderately, with guidance on their usage ignored and unenforced. Private e-scooters still remain unregulated, despite being present on our streets.

Guide Dogs has been engaging with retailers, local authorities and law makers to ensure the safety of pedestrians with sight loss; most recently, MPs met people with vision impairments who shared their encounters with e-scooters. Visit [guidedogs.org.uk/campaigns](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/campaigns) to find out more about our work on e-scooters in your area.

## Making childhood equal for everyone

At the end of last year, MPs heard directly from children and their families about the vital importance of specialist support for children and young people with sight loss. At our well-attended online event with Westminster MPs, Nell, Kelsey and Erin and their families talked about their experiences with local

authorities, in mainstream and specialist education, and highlighted what they think needs to change.

We're working for a future where every person with sight loss has the confidence and support to live the life they choose. That starts with making childhood equal for children and young people with sight loss.

To help take this work forward, Guide Dogs is setting up our Creating the Future Commission. We believe there should be a consistent and ambitious pathway to support children with sight loss across the UK from the point of diagnosis through to their transition to adulthood. Every young person should be able to access the support they need to pursue their ambitions and achieve their full potential. Find out more at [guidedogs.org.uk/campaigns](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/campaigns).



# Go figure: the story behind our volunteering stats

Ask any data analyst about statistics and you could be forgiven for feeling lost in a 'numbers' conversation, without really knowing what it all means and how it relates to real life.

But it's their job – a bit like Sherlock Holmes – to find clues within the data, bring it to life and tell the story behind the stats. To do this, they need to collect the stories and information.

So, how does this happen? At Guide Dogs, we carry out detailed research every two years with our volunteers and staff to find out what's going well and where we can develop. It's called a Volunteer Impact Assessment. What we evaluate is decided by staff and volunteers from across different teams.

As a result of feedback from the 2019 survey, we made a number of improvements. This included introducing new volunteer induction days, new staff training in supporting volunteers, a new approach to volunteer communications, and work to improve our response times to enquiries about fundraising or speaker roles. Our new dedicated customer care team is also now in place.

Earlier this year, we conducted our Volunteer Impact Assessment. James Needham, Project Lead, said: "In 2021, it wasn't surprising that there was a lot of interest in seeing how we'd responded to the pandemic and what had or hadn't worked as we shifted to remote working for different volunteer roles.

"Staff and volunteers identified a very wide research brief and we're grateful to those who fed back in surveys and workshops. Not everyone wants to complete a detailed survey and in response, volunteers will also see shorter 'Pulse' surveys to complement the deeper research."

The January 2021 pulse survey showed that while volunteers understood the connection between their role and Guide Dogs' aims, we've seen more volunteers feeling that we're not communicating information about their role, and fewer feeling that they're making a useful contribution.

In response, we've put a number of actions in place including awareness raising internally of the importance of keeping in touch locally. We've also equipped staff with the information and support they need, alongside our roadmap of activities to get back on track after Covid-19.



## 71%

Of our volunteers would strongly recommend volunteering for Guide Dogs\*



## 57

Is the average age of a Guide Dogs volunteer\*



## 13

Million hours is how long it would take to carry out our volunteers' roles each year\*\*

# Guide Line

## The new way to get information and advice from Guide Dogs staff

**Guide Line is the easy way to get in touch with Guide Dogs for help or to find out about our range of services.**

All you need is one telephone number to speak to a member of staff who will be able to answer your query straight away or put you in touch with the most appropriate person. By having a single number we're able to help more people with sight loss more quickly, and be more consistent in how we offer support across the country.

Our staff handle enquiries from the public, existing and potential service users and, in some instances, our

volunteers – those who need a quick response to a dog health-related enquiry. There's also an accompanying email address that complements our telephone service (details opposite).

In January, Guide Line replaced our Covid-19 information phone line, which was set up last year in response to demand for help. Since January, we've dealt with more than 11,000 phone calls and more than 9,000 emails.

As the gateway to Guide Dogs' support services for adults and children and young people, Guide Line Advisers are highly trained members of staff who are able to conduct 'first conversations' – an initial

chat that's the important first step that people with sight loss make towards getting the help they need.

Wendy Smith, Guide Line Operations Lead, said: "We're receiving around 200 calls each day, which has been steadily increasing day-by-day. Some calls can last five minutes and some two hours. It all depends on what the enquiry is but as a rule, our first conversations with new and returning applicants take time because we're really listening to the intricacies of people's lives – all aspects including where they need help – and this is an area that cannot be rushed."

“

**We're really listening to the intricacies of people's lives – all aspects including where they need help.**

”



## Guide Line covers four areas:

- 1** **Adult services:** from a request for a new service to a current guide dog owner needing a new lead.
- 2** **Children and Young People:** starting with first conversations, habilitation referrals, buddy dogs and more.
- 3** **Dog health:** from volunteer Puppy Raisers and guide dog owners when a quick response is needed for either minor issues such as abrasions, or more serious health and welfare concerns.
- 4** **General enquiries:** anything and everything, including coordination of support for volunteering activities as well as fielding calls for our local community teams when someone doesn't have a direct line for a member of staff or their volunteer manager.

Guide Line is staffed by 11 advisers with four new advisers in training/about to commence training, along with three supervisors, one operation lead and one manager – with over 170 years of combined experience of working at Guide Dogs, including 50 years of guide dog owner experience.

The majority of advisers have come from an operational community team background, dealing with puppy raising, dog health, My Sighted Guide and fundraising. In addition, we have four on-call dog health and welfare specialists every day to support Guide Line staff with any dog health issues they are not able to help with.

Guide Line supports our By My Side strategy by allowing us to reach and help more people by 2023 as we grow our ability to provide information and advice.

Call Guide Line on **0800 781 1444** (Monday - Friday, 9-5pm) or email [information@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:information@guidedogs.org.uk).



## Meet Guide Line Adviser, Maria McLaughlin

"I joined Guide Dogs as an office junior in 1982 and since then, I've had many roles which have been wide ranging – from carrying out confidential work relating to staff and clients to supporting clients and dealing with vets.

"I have supported different canine teams including puppy raising, guide dog ownership and dog health. I've also been lucky enough to rehome three retired guide dogs!

"On Guide Line, it's very busy but I do enjoy the client contact, particularly carrying out 'first conversations' when someone is applying or reapplying for a guide dog. I've always enjoyed contact with our clients and when the role of Guide Line Adviser was advertised, I thought 'that's the job for me'."

“

**When the role of Guide Line Adviser was advertised, I thought 'that's the job for me'.**

”

# Introducing Puppy Raising for Excellent Partnerships

**Puppy Raising for Excellent Partnerships (PREP) is our new standard way to raise our puppies which prepares them for their adult training and their future roles as life-changers. It brings together the latest positive reinforcement training methods, Guide Dogs' expertise, and volunteer know-how to ensure we give our puppies the best possible start for their guide dog training.**

With PREP, everything begins with treating our puppies as individuals. This helps us to tailor support for their physical, behavioural and emotional development, and give them the important life skills they need to become confident and well-adjusted adult dogs.

One key benefit of PREP is standardisation and consistency across our puppy raising schemes and how it aligns with our guide dog training programme – Standardised Training for Excellent Partnerships (STEP). Based on similar principles, PREP provides all the key learnings and behaviours puppies need to make the smooth transition into STEP.

David Grice, National Head of Dog Training and Behaviour, said: "To prepare our puppies for guide dog training, we need to ensure they learn a range of skills growing up. These 'key skills' will support our pups to transition into training and to learn the new behaviours required so they can carry out the many tasks they will need as a working guide dog."

Although PREP will standardise the way we raise our puppies and prepare them for training, it doesn't necessarily mean that every Puppy Raiser and puppy will use the same techniques to achieve the same outcome at the same time. This is because PREP recognises puppies and their Puppy Raisers as individuals and provides the most appropriate learning for both. Through this standardised yet flexible approach, we're able to adapt training techniques, methods and support to match the individual learning needs of our puppies and Puppy Raisers.





For our volunteer Puppy Raisers, we're introducing additional support via an online learning system called Kallidus to make it easier and more accessible to know how to raise our puppies whilst offering greater support and resources. This will include multimedia content, updated guidance, resources and dedicated support from our Puppy Development Advisors.

It's not just our puppies and their Puppy Raisers who will benefit from our puppy and person-centred approach – it's their future partnerships too. Through our approach and framework, there are long-term advantages to how we raise our puppies and find a role they're naturally suited to – whether that's as a guide, buddy or companion dog. With any future role, our puppies learn important behavioural skills which make them a joy to live with!

PREP is a significant investment in our puppy raising programme for both our staff and volunteers. PREP evolves and updates our puppy raising programme to build upon our current best practices and scientific evidence

in relation to puppy development and training. Since last year, we've been investing in our puppy development staff so they can fully support the rollout of PREP to Puppy Raisers from July 2021.

Mel Wharmby, Puppy Development Supervisor (South West and Wales), said: "Having trained on PREP, I feel extremely enthusiastic and confident about sharing it with my amazing volunteers and supporting other members of the puppy development team.

"With the training, I've gained a wide range of up-to-date knowledge and understanding of dog training from both the external consultants we've worked with and other Puppy Development Advisors. I've even started using the PREP principles with my pet dog, Ragnar, who's a six-year-old German shepherd.

"I feel this is a positive way forward for Guide Dogs and the puppy department, and I can see it will make foundation training with our puppies much stronger."

**We formed focus groups from members of Puppy Raising Consultative Groups, so there have been around 100 Puppy Raisers who have directly inputted into PREP. Here's some of their feedback...**

**"Thank you again for allowing me to share this journey with you all. I've really enjoyed being involved and wish you well with (hopefully) the rollout later this year. It will be greatly appreciated I know!"**

Patricia Twaite, Puppy Raiser  
(South East)

**"I'm really impressed with the thoroughness, layout and supportive, informative guidance they provide. I wish I'd had this when I started."**

Alison Timms, Puppy Raiser, Puppy Raising Mentor and Puppy Raising Consultative Group member (Midlands)

**"Have been reflecting about what we saw yesterday and just wanted to say how positive I thought it was and how much I'm looking forward to it going live!"**

Sue Osario, Puppy Raising Mentor and Fosterer (North West)

A man with glasses and a beard, wearing a dark jacket and a bright yellow high-visibility vest, is walking a golden retriever on a paved path. The dog is also wearing a yellow vest with a sign that reads "please don't distract me - I'm a working guide". The background shows a stone wall and bare trees.

# Richard's story

**When Richard Wadwell's first guide dog died, it was a traumatic experience that left him struggling to get to work or have a social life. Fortunately, the problems didn't last too long. Richard now has a confident new dog that is helping him do more than ever before.**



"When I got my first dog Ralph in 2012, he was a revelation to me," says Richard. "I was born with bilateral cataracts and have had barely any sight since birth, but I always just got on with things and didn't want to draw attention to myself.

"It was only in my mid-30s that I decided to get in touch with Guide Dogs. It was the best move I could have made. As soon as I got Ralph, I felt for the first time that I could be spontaneous, go out whenever I wanted, and not rely on anyone else.

"The best thing about getting Ralph though was he helped me get back into work. I'd been unemployed for a while after being made redundant, and was struggling to find another job.

"Just two months after Ralph arrived, I decided to prove my worth by taking on two volunteer roles, at Citizens Advice and a local museum.

"It was a great stepping stone. A year later I landed a full-time job in an office in the centre of Leeds. It meant a commute on the train from my home in Skipton but with Ralph by my side, it didn't bother me at all. Compared to where I'd been a few years earlier, having Ralph felt like complete freedom."

“

**Losing a dog is not nice for anyone – but when you rely on them as well it's really hard.**

”



### **Losing Ralph**

"Unfortunately, much of that freedom ended seven years later when Ralph passed away suddenly from a heart tumour. It was horrible. Losing a dog is not nice for anyone – but when you rely on them as well it's really hard.

"The biggest challenge was my job. I still had to commute and had to do it with a white cane – which I don't like using at all. I find using the cane draining and slow, because you need to concentrate so much.

"Pretty soon I was leaving home ridiculously early at 5:30am, just to make sure I got to work on time. I had no social life. With Ralph I would do things in the evenings with friends, maybe go to the pub, but now I was coming home exhausted and going straight to bed.

"It felt like working and commuting just wasn't sustainable any more. It was a huge blow to my confidence."



### Back on track

Richard said: "I shouldn't have been too worried, because things are now better than ever. It started when I was matched with my new dog, Martin, and we began training together.

"I could see the training had progressed since I'd done it with Ralph. You still do a two-week residential course, but then you also have to go through an additional, rigorous phase of training at home where you get each capability signed off step-by-step as you reach the right level.

"Martin is a fantastic problem solver. We've got major road works going on near my home that change layout all the time, but Martin seems to love finding new ways to get around them.

"Whenever we're going somewhere new, I can feel the

difference in his harness. He gets excited because it's a new challenge for him to overcome. It's amazing to witness really."

### Looking to the future

"Not long after I got Martin, the Covid pandemic and lockdown started, so I've been working from home like most other people.

"There is better news on the horizon though, because I've been offered a new role at work that ultimately means I'll need to go to our Manchester office one day a week as well as still going to Leeds.

“

**Whenever we're going somewhere new, Martin gets excited because it's a new challenge for him.**

”

"I don't know Manchester very well, and there will be new things to negotiate like trams – but with Martin working with me, the challenge doesn't daunt me. I know we'll be able to cope easily. After a year of working from home, it's actually quite exciting!

"One of the other upsides of lockdown has been that I've been walking five miles with Martin every day on different routes to keep us fit and occupied. It's been fun, actually. I've discovered new parts of Sipton and routes that I never knew existed.

"I've also realised that walking just for walking's sake can be a pleasure. In fact, walking has become my relaxation, and that's something I never would have thought I'd say a few years ago! I'll definitely be doing a lot more of it in the future."

# A life of adventure

Many people choose to leave a legacy to Guide Dogs as they know our services offer people with sight loss the chance to live a life of freedom and independence. We'd like to share the inspiring story of Mollie, who was able to go on many exciting adventures thanks to her guide dogs.

Mollie was born in 1925 with the inherited condition Usher Syndrome, which causes hearing loss and sight loss. After spending many years in assisted living accommodation, she decided she wanted to be more independent, so applied for her first guide dog in 1973.

Mollie had four guide dogs during her extraordinary lifetime. Nita, Bonnie, Alice and Tara all boosted her confidence, so much so that she began travelling. First she toured around England, then to British Columbia and Malta where, aged 62, she tried parasailing. She had to stand on the beach, run as fast as she could towards the water and then jump in the air!

Two years later, she attended a disabled water sports day where she tried water skiing. Two instructors attached a longer bar to a motorboat and positioned themselves on either side of her. Mollie and her instructors managed to complete two circuits of the lake. Mollie has also taken part in archery, indoor climbing, flying, trampolining and camel riding.

A tireless fundraiser for Guide Dogs, she participated in events like sponsored swims and tandem bicycle rides. Mollie also gave a monthly donation and left a gift in her Will when she died in April 2018, as Guide Dogs had made such a life-changing difference to her. She knew our vital work can only be made possible thanks to the generosity of people who leave a legacy gift.



Mollie parasailing



Mollie flying



Mollie and Tara

## Find out more

To find out how gifts in Wills can help people with sight loss live life to the full, visit [guidedogs.org.uk/giftsinwills](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/giftsinwills)



# Lucy's Bowl

## In memory of a special son and a special dog

An angler from Gloucestershire has raised more than £100,000 for Guide Dogs and named a guide dog puppy Ben in memory of his son. Keith Sykes, from Cirencester, founded Lucy's Bowl fishing competition in 2011, named after his beloved pet dog, Lucy.

Keith has since named 18 guide dog puppies through Guide Dogs' Name a Puppy scheme, helping them on their way to becoming life-changers. Keith said: "We'd always used the money raised from the event to name guide dog puppies Lucy, up until last year.

"In 2019 I sadly lost my son, Ben, who was 36, to bowel cancer. He was a linchpin in the success of Lucy's Bowl and a trustee. He was always there in the background, supporting me and the whole event.

"We had a trustees' meeting at the beginning of 2020 and it was decided that, in memory of Ben, we would raise money to name pups after him too."

The first guide dog puppy named Ben by the event is a black retriever/Labrador cross, born in February last year. Keith added:

"The aim for this year is to name 20 puppies either Lucy or Ben."

Last year's competition, held in August at RK Leisure's Wraysbury complex, near Staines in Surrey, saw 50 anglers taking part, with social distancing measures in place as outlined by the Angling Trust and the Government. This year's 10th anniversary event is on 20-22 August, at the same place.

Keith added: "We'd also like to say a massive thank you to the owner of RK Leisure, Raphael Khalili, for allowing us to use the complex free of charge for Lucy's Bowl. Without his support, we'd struggle to hold the event and make it such a success each year. Guide dogs are life-changing, that's what drives us all on. It's amazing to think that this competition creates a legacy for my dog and now my son. It's also very humbling to think that a dog and some anglers have achieved what we have."

### Find out more

To find out more about naming a guide dog puppy, visit [guidedogs.org.uk/nameapuppy](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk/nameapuppy)

# A day in the life of...

## Penny Hefferan, Service User Voice Officer

The first thing you notice when speaking to Penny Hefferan about her role is her passion for what she does. In early January, Penny started as Service User Voice Officer – making sure that what those who use our services are telling us is at the heart of everything we do. Sitting within Guide Dogs' Campaigns Team, the role helps to shape everything from how Guide Dogs responds to things like public consultations, to the charity's own campaigns.

She said: "For me, it's all about bringing a subject to life by enabling and empowering service users to find their own voices, so they can share their own lived experiences in their own words in the most eloquent way. They just might need a bit of help to do that, to get a bit of confidence perhaps."

It's a good job she's so motivated, as Penny had to hit the ground running. She said: "My very first task was organising our response to the Westminster Government's UK-wide consultation on its national strategy for disabled people.

"We ran a series of focus groups and interviews to delve deeply into some of the questions the survey posed. We then pulled the responses together and passed them to our Campaigns team colleagues, who used them to shape Guide Dogs' response. It's one thing for the Government to get responses to the questions they're asking, but it's something else for them to hear how things truly affect people.

“

It's all about enabling and empowering service users to find their own voices.

”

"One question I'm asking all the time is 'how did that make you feel?'. Of course it's awful to hear that a guide dog owner had a close encounter with an e-scooter. But it's something else when you then learn that that experience made that person too frightened to go out alone again."

While she's keen to make sure our service users' voices are heard, Penny knows exactly what it's like to be affected by things like access refusals and inaccessible streetscapes. Blind since birth, Penny got her first guide dog at the age of 19 and is now on her ninth dog, a yellow Labrador/retriever cross called Questa.

Penny is currently keen to hear from anyone who's blind or partially sighted who's been affected by e-scooters. To get in touch, contact Penny via Guide Line on **0800 781 1444** (Monday - Friday, 9-5pm) or email [information@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:information@guidedogs.org.uk).



## Supporters



*Maria Novell*  
Maria Novell  
Fundraising &  
Commercial Director

Dear supporters,

I've been so amazed by the tireless strength of spirit shown by our fundraisers and supporters as the Covid-19 pandemic has continued into this year. Even though there were more restrictions after Christmas, you found a way to carry on (safely) regardless.

Whether that was by decorating your homes with festive lights like the Spinks and McKay families, or using social media to livestream a very close shave like Heather Worofka, you still kept yourselves busy raising vital funds to ensure that we can continue helping people with sight loss to live the lives they choose.

I wish you all a safe, happy and healthy summer, whatever fundraising fun you have planned. Thank you once again and please keep safe.

▼ Hilary Reed, of Westbury, Wiltshire, is raising money to name a guide puppy after the late Captain Sir Tom Moore. Hilary, who's part of Westbury and Warminster fundraising group, also fundraises individually and has been a Puppy Raiser since 1982, caring for more than 50 guide dog puppies. Despite the challenges of lockdown, Hilary is about halfway to her £5,000 fundraising goal. Hilary said: "He touched the nation and he seemed like the grandfather I never had! I just thought it would be quite nice to name a puppy after him as a tribute." While the dog will be called Tom day-to-day, his paperwork will read Captain Tom.



**Riva**

▲ Riva, the guide dog puppy named by Arriva Buses Wales, has become a first-time father to a litter of eight healthy puppies. The handsome yellow Labrador was earmarked as a potential guide dog dad soon after his puppy visit to Arriva's Bangor depot. Staff across North Wales raised more than £5,000 with a series of inter-depot events and on-board bucket collections, and went on to raise enough for a second puppy, which they will name Arri.



**Hilary**





**Heather & Victor**

▲ Heather Worofka felt the chill after shaving off her long blonde hair to raise £870 for Guide Dogs Cymru. Heather, 26, persuaded dad Dave to wield the scissors after her local salon went into lockdown. The pair then swapped places, with Heather using a razor to remove Dave's hair and eyebrows. Friends and followers watched the event live on Facebook. Heather said: "My guide dog Victor was not too keen on me afterwards!"



**Coleen**

▲ Coleen Falconer-Copeland was devastated when guide dog Lauren passed away last year. She and her family decided to raise £2,500 to name a guide dog puppy in Lauren's memory by what would have been her 10th birthday on 24 July 2022 – but they've already smashed their target! Through the sale of personal possessions and merchandise, plus generous donations from friends, family and members of the public, the team have raised almost £2,800.



Tony and Eunice Spinks from Great Barton, West Suffolk, have fundraised for different charities by decorating their house for Christmas since 2004. In 2010, the pair decided to start raising money for Guide Dogs after borrowing a guide dog-shaped collection box from neighbours

and Bury St Edmunds fundraising group volunteers, Bryan and Melita Garnham. Tony and Eunice have collected for us ever since, raising an average of around £150 each Christmas but last year, despite everything, they broke all records with £202.

## Supporters

► Pete and Chris McKay, members of the Dales and District fundraising group and owners of black lab Harley (a former guide dog in training and now a much-loved pet), raised £1,026 over the Christmas period by adorning their home and garden in festive lights in the remote village of Healaugh in Upper Swaledale, North Yorkshire.



*Pete and Chris' house*



**Carol**

► Lyn Dennis decided to organise a coffee morning for Guide Dogs after mum, Elsie Rosson, got her first guide dog 14 years ago. After speaking to her local Community Fundraising Relationship Manager, Pam Gratton, Lyn signed up as a volunteer group organiser and the Camborne, Perranporth and District group was formed. In the years since, this Cornwall-based group has held annual coffee mornings and organised collections almost every week. Sadly Elsie passed away in December last year, at the age of 93. Her last wish was to make a donation to Guide Dogs, giving £2,500 to name a future guide dog Elsa.

◀ Thanks to everyone who donned their tartan for Scotland's Virtual Kiltwalk. Carol Danskin from Broughty Ferry walked and cycled 26 miles. Carol began fundraising to Name a Puppy in memory of her dad, Arthur. Incredibly, she has now raised almost £20,000 – enough to name her fourth pup. Carol said: "Dad would have been chuffed to bits. He sponsored puppies for a number of years and I'm doing this for him."



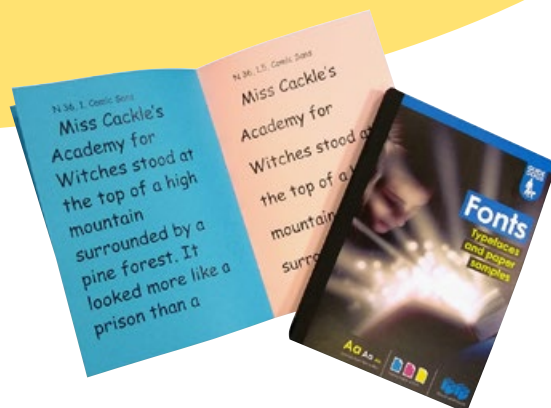
**Elsie**

Leamington and Warwick fundraising group's virtual Christmas fair raised nearly £1,000. They sold festive cards and wrapping paper plus volunteer-made handicrafts, and ran a 'guess the number of dog treats in a jar' competition. Father Christmas and his four-legged helper hosted a virtual Zoom grotto, where children could chat to the man himself and the unforgettable words "Santa, you're on mute" were heard.



# Inspiring children to read with CustomEyes® Books

Our CustomEyes® Books service specialises in tailor-made large print books for vision-impaired or dyslexic children and young adults.



Every book we produce is customised to the exact needs of the reader – whether it's a specific font, font size, word or line spacing and, of course, a selection of coloured paper to print on – we do it all!

With more than 4,200 titles to choose from, there's something for everyone. We have new releases alongside books from popular authors ranging from Biff, Chip and Kipper to Shakespeare.

There are also educational texts such as Animal Farm and An Inspector Calls, and of course the ever-popular Harry Potter books.

All books are sold at their Recommended Retail Price regardless of the final format and size produced. Our

largest CustomEyes book to date is Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix, which was around 7,500 pages and resulted in 35 volumes.

The CustomEyes Books team has worked tirelessly to ensure that children with sight loss can continue to read throughout the pandemic – with an average of 600 custom books produced each month. No mean feat!

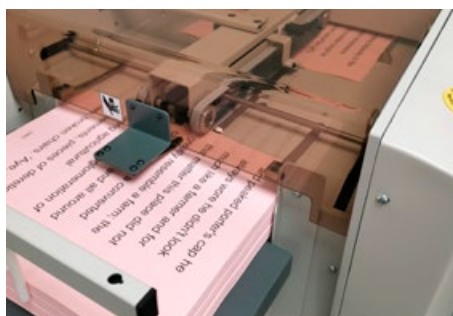
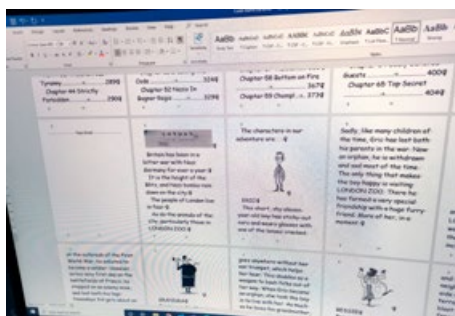
In September last year we launched the CustomEyes digital book store, allowing members to find and buy books in one easy process. Since then, orders virtually doubled overnight with an incredible 2,229 books ordered in the last four months of last year.

Due to the interactive nature of our digital book store, it's now easier and quicker for members to discover our catalogue and for us to offer promotions.

So far this year, more than 2,600 books have already been ordered. To manage demand, the CustomEyes team recently moved their production office along with new equipment to a new space within our Reading Hub site.

In future, we'll add new features to improve the customer experience such as suggested reads based on order history and automated registration.

For more information, visit [guidedogs.org.uk/customeyes](http://guidedogs.org.uk/customeyes)



# My Time to Play

**Giving children the opportunity, independence and skills from an early age to live the life they choose is at the heart of our new My Time to Play programme.**

Launched in April 2021, this free service helps children with sight loss from birth to four years old to develop a broad range of skills through play in a group setting. Led by our habilitation specialists, these fun and supportive group sessions help children to develop a broad range of skills and encourage them to use their non-visual senses. Each session is based around a sensory story and includes songs, movement and related activities.

One of our most popular sensory stories so far has been the specially “scented” version of The Gruffalo.

Earlier this year, Guide Dogs created and released the smell of the Gruffalo and other characters from the deep dark wood to help make reading inclusive for the whole family. As a world first, these “scent kits” featured a different smell for each of the five well-loved characters which supports children with a visual impairment to bring the book to life.

My Time to Play focuses on five key areas of your child’s development: concept development, sensory skills, fine and gross motor skills, self-help for children and communications.

Parent Sarah Perkins said: “We really have loved every session so far! The very first session involved a bell. My son Alfie loved it so much so that he crawled for the first time ever to get the bell.

“We have fun every week and will be so sad when it ends! Alfie loves all the songs and we sing them throughout the week. Both [Habilitation Specialists] Amy and Jess have been brilliant with engaging with us and answering questions on how I can help Alfie with his sight. The sessions have benefited us greatly. Thank you!”

“

**Alfie loves all the songs and we sing them throughout the week.**

”





The team delivering the sessions have just as much fun as the children.



Not only does My Time to Play encourage social interaction and friendships between children but it also has the same benefit for parents. At our sessions, parents can access peer-to-peer support by meeting other families in similar situations and sharing their experiences. This can be an invaluable opportunity for parents, especially when it comes to picking up skills and knowledge that will help support your child's early years development with confidence.

My Time to Play consists of seven sessions with up to six families on each programme. Each session is delivered by a highly trained Guide Dogs Habilitation Specialist.

Gillian Murdoch, Habilitation Specialist in Scotland, said: "I really enjoy delivering

My Time to Play. I feel so privileged being able to engage with the children and their families and getting to know them.

"It is very fulfilling watching the children's reactions to the various sensory experiences. This can be a smile to a smell, reaching out to a sound, a curious look when exploring a new texture or excitement for their favourite song! But most of all having lots of fun learning new habilitation skills.

"The team delivering the sessions have just as much fun as the children."

Due to Covid-19, My Time to Play is currently being delivered virtually but is expected to move to 'in-person' sessions – Covid-19 permitting – in a phased way from September 2021. We're also planning to expand the service

across the UK by September next year. During this period of expansion, we'll continue to run a virtual programme for families who cannot attend in-person sessions.

### Find out more

For further information, visit [guidedogs.org.uk](https://www.guidedogs.org.uk) and search "My Time to Play", or to register to take part in the My Time to Play programme call **0800 781 1444**.



# Congratulations to our new partnerships

New partnerships are listed by community team.  
Each listing details owner, guide dog, town, breed,  
puppy walker, brood bitch holder and boarder.  
Warm congratulations to all our new qualifiers.

## Belfast

June Best & Clyde from Craigavon GRxGR Ronald Ferguson from Glenrothes \* Lindy Howlett from Bromyard. Mr & Mrs Pete & Louise Millard from Lutterworth. Miss Emma Cuthill from Montrose.

Eleanor Jackson & Cooper from Portadown GRxGR Margaret Morrison from North Berwick \* Lindy Howlett from Bromyard. Mr & Mrs Pete & Louise Millard from Lutterworth. Mrs Claire McDiarmid from Forfar. Mrs Phillipa McCreight from Holywood.

Caroline McAllister & Ebony from Larne LxGR Morag Torrance from Skelmorlie \* Straker from Stratford-upon-Avon. Mrs Lana Taylor from Stratford-upon-Avon. Mr Robert Kirk from Irvine.

Pauline McKenna & Kelda from Downpatrick LxL Karen Clark from Arbroath \* Sue Lancaster from Bedford. Mr Geoff Whiteman from Coalville. Miss Kelly Murdoch from Dundee.

Elaine Orwin & Maisie from Down GRxL Daphne Barfoot from Belfast \* Christina Sibbald from Wantage. Mr Keith Binding from Banbury. Michael & Jill Armer from Downpatrick.

Barry Toner & Oyster from Lisburn GRxL Helen Baird from Belfast \* Howard Dorrell from Worcester. Mr Paul Crowe from Kenilworth.

Angela Wales & Vera from Greenisland L Ricky Flanagan from Belfast \* Mr & Mrs Griffith from Warwick. Mr & Mrs Lowe from Coventry. Mr Ricky Flanagan from Belfast. Michael & Jill Armer from Downpatrick. Mr & Mrs Richard & Karen Hambleton from Carrickfergus.

## Birmingham

Kerry Boyd & Colby from Worcester GRxL Michael Gurney from Worcester \* Sue Wilkins from Rugby.

Ann Marie Kavanagh & Levi from Nottingham L Amanda Lewis from Warwick \* Lynn Jones from Rugby. Mrs Sharon Broer from Coventry. Mr Adam Grinsell from Halesowen.

Rachel Martin & Jamie from Birmingham LxGR Julia Yarker from Edinburgh \* Stephen Lines from Leamington Spa. Mrs Dulcie Parry from Rugby. Mrs Elizabeth Watson from Motherwell. Mrs Carol Ann Mahler from Banbury.

Ann Nicholls & Yoda from Fairford GR Leonora Tromans from Kidderminster \* Marie Court from Halesowen. Mrs Glenice Battaloglu from Birmingham.

Paul Nicholls & Unis from Birmingham LxGR David Small from Pontypool \* Jane Roberts from Wellesbourne. Miss Sarah Sheasby from Bromsgrove. Mrs Felicity Stratton from Warwick.

Marie Taylor & Colwyn from Evesham GRxL Judith Gill from Caldicot \* Neil & Elizabeth Smith from Northampton. Mr Adrian Claxton from Warwick. Mr Dan Powell from Leamington Spa. Mrs Sue Cox from Leamington Spa.

## Cardiff

Lloyd (Jonathan) Davies & Harvey from Carmarthen STPxL Julie Matthews from Keynsham \* Mary Smith from Moreton-in-Marsh. Mr & Mrs Landsberg from Milton Keynes.

Martin Griffiths & Benji from Swansea L Gwyn & Dawn James from Pontypool \* Sarah Kite from Birmingham. Mrs Lana Taylor from Stratford-upon-Avon.

Nia Hicks-Brew & Una from Pwllheli GRxL Lynne Thomas from Porthcawl \* Natasha Aylott from Birmingham. Mrs Lynne Jones from Stratford-upon-Avon.

Timothy Hill & Falcon from Cardiff GRxL Lindsay Huntington from Chepstow \* Ben & Rhiannon Haxton & Davies from Kidlington. Mrs Catherine Egan from Worcester.

Gill Jones & Clover from Rhyl LxGR Ian And Hermione Pantling from Warwick \* Sue Wilkins from Rugby. Mrs Hannah Laird from Warwick.

Stephen Lawrence & Jax from Pontyclun LxGR Sara Dixon from Dartmouth \* Lisa Smith from Warwick. Mrs Kim Roberts from Stratford-upon-Avon. Mrs Sue Phillips from Cardiff.

Andrew Muxlow & Ernie from Rhondda Cynon Taff GRxL Eric Welch from Towcester \* Sian Simmons from Kenilworth. Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mrs Emma Scott from Leamington Spa.

Geraldine Newman & Billy from Monmouth GRxL John Morris from Coventry \* Neil & Elizabeth Smith from Northampton. Mr Adrian Claxton from Warwick. Miss Poppy James from Leamington Spa.



Andrea Salt & Cassie from Cardiff L Martin Robins from Evesham \* Catherine Keenan from Halesowen. Mrs Lana Taylor from Stratford-upon-Avon. Miss Andrea Lacey from Mountain Ash.

Julie Thomas & Yoko from Bridgend GRxGSD Kath Dunning from Chard \* Trudy Evans from Coventry.

Richard Tully & Edison from Pontypool GRxL Wayne Abbott from Bath \* Sian Simmons from Kenilworth. Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull.

### Coventry

Steve Cunningham & Qantas from Southam GRxGSD Rebecca Mackintosh from Rugby \* Joe Bourne from Nuneaton. Paul Huc from Leamington Spa.

Jon Hayre & Rainbow from Oakham GSDxGR \* Linda Mallette from Worcester. Mrs Dawn Herbert from Leamington Spa. Mr Andrew Walling from Warwick. Tom Hemus from Warwick. Mrs Carol Crowder from Southam.

Coral-Lea Jones & Jances from Northampton LXSTP Sandra Croker from Birmingham \* Mr Paul Sharp from Coventry. Mr Brendan Duffy from Birmingham.

Oscar Kelly & Storm from Loughborough GRxGR Roy Scott from Newton Abbot, Geoff Myers from Exeter \* Catherine Waddell from Redditch. Mr & Mrs Pete & Louise Millard from Lutterworth. Mrs Nicola Hadley from Leamington Spa.

Rachel Nafzger & Jax from Daventry GRxL John & Maggie Garland from Clevedon \* Natalie Durrant from Redditch. Mrs Janet Welsh from Warwick.

Robert Skene & Roxy from Kettering GRxL Patricia Storer from Hinckley \* Dee Moloney from Leamington Spa. Mr John Gulliver from Leamington Spa.

Peter Summers & Zooby from Birmingham GRxL Tracy Jones from Carterton \* Elizabeth Millard from Coventry. Mr Elliot Read from Leamington Spa.

Darren Swales & Tilly from Northampton L Susan Keen from Shaftesbury \* Mrs Caroline Cheshire from Warwick. Mr Jason Slack from Kenilworth.

Anthony Taylor & Yamka from Northampton GRxGSD Tony Murray from Kenilworth \* Trudy Evans from Coventry. Mr Tony Murray from Kenilworth.

### Edinburgh

Roderick Burnett & Ben from Aboyne LxGR Gordon And Fay Simpson from Forfar \* Christina Kearney from Shrewsbury. Mrs Natasha Reilly from Forfar. Mrs Nicola Beets from Edzell.

Joyce Burnie & Ulan from Glasgow LxGR Barbara Watson from Montrose \* Jane Roberts from Wellesbourne. Miss Sarah Sheasby from Bromsgrove. Mrs Laura Kennedy from Brechin. Mrs Jenifer Lovegrove from Forfar.

Ronnie Girdwood & Portia from Peebles GRxGSD Fiona Davidson from Meikle \* Fionne Jones from Milton Keynes. Miss Elaine Thomson from Arbroath. Mrs Nikki Henry from Carnoustie.

Harvey Grainger & Tessa from Peterculter LxGR Alex Kemp from Livingston \* Stephen Lines from Leamington Spa. Mrs Dulcie Parry from Rugby. Mr Alan Falconer from Edinburgh.

Colin Greenlees & Ernie from Renfrew L Wendy Cunningham from Dundee \* Tim Hunt from Northampton. Miss Abbie Byrne from Dundee.

Kevin Henderson & Ajax from Kirkcaldy L Irene Mitchell from Montrose \* Elizabeth Miles from Kenilworth. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester.

Mary-Ann Low & Kalie from Arbroath LxL Joanna Macmillan from Falkirk \* Sue Lancaster from Bedford. Mr Geoff Whiteman from Coalville.

Bryan McGlashan & Vadar from Glenrothes LxGR John Templeton from Glasgow \* Amber O'Brien from Warwick. Rev Craig Grocock from Leamington Spa. Mrs Anne Cameron Batty from Edinburgh.

Clare McIntosh & Yazz from Inverness GRxL Jennifer Taylor from Ellon \* Jessica Macgregor from Banbury. Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mrs Kerry Walker from Montrose.

Lorna McMurray & Norah from Linlithgow LxGR Carol McWatt from Port Seton \* Lynne De Melo from Loughborough. Mrs Susan Scott from Forfar.

Pam Meek & Olaf from Bathgate LxGR Valerie Macaulay from Dunfermline \* Rebecca Jackson from Kidderminster. Mrs Allyson Field from Arbroath.

## New partnerships

Marcelle Erica Napier & Nell from Carnoustie GRxGSD \* Sharon Faulkner from Coventry. Mr Adrian Claxton from Warwick. Mrs Gillian Davidson from Forfar.

Scott Ramsay & Shadow from Dundee L Calum Gibson from Dunfermline, Alastair Robson from Dunfermline \* Mr Pete Gall from Carnoustie.

Peter Ricca & Lester from Denny L Margaret Davidson from Lockerbie \* Cath Pedreschi from Evesham. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester. Miss Katherine Haynes from Forfar.

Nicky Smart & Shane from Larbert GRxGSD James Harper from Dundee \* Linda Tindall from Coventry. Mrs Wendy Milne from Forfar.

### Exeter

Pat Alexander & Winnie from Bristol LxGR Bert & Margaret Beech from Sherness \* Claire Webster from Sutton Coldfield. Mr Tom Friday from Leamington Spa.

Serena Altria & Cathy from Barnstaple LxGR Linda Payne from Newmarket \* Tammi Curran from Rugby. Mr & Mrs Tom & Jane Hargrave from Daventry. Mrs Sheeulah Price from Bristol.

Suzanne Bailey & Alice from Exeter GR Robert Cassidy from Torquay \* Paul Dodd from Ross-on-Wye. Ms Liza Page from Exeter.

Patricia Corder & Queenie from Chard LxGR Richard Beeching from Redruth \* Linda Sheehan from Evesham. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester.

Meriel Feather & Poppy from Budleigh Salterton GSD Clare Hemming from Harbury \* Cora Blaver from Northampton. Mrs Dawn Herbert from Leamington Spa. Mr Darren Howard from Honiton.

Rowan Graham & Mary from Cullompton LxGR Carol Kimberley from Hinckley \*

Marc Gulwell & Inca from Bristol LxGR Caroline Towns from Newmarket \* Regina Cardo from Kingswinford. Miss Sarah Sheasby from Bromsgrove. Miss Ciara Martin from Bristol.

Winifred Rose Hewitt & Melanie from Paignton GRxL Richard & Sandra Nash from Malvern \* Cindy McCreary from Kidlington. Mr & Mrs Mark & Samantha Edwards from Warwick.

Joanna Hogan & Erryn from Taunton L Helen Mitchell from Street \* Tim Hunt from Northampton. Mrs Elaine Barker from Leamington Spa. Mr Ky Cheriton from Exeter. Mrs Sara Bennett from Exeter.

Phil Jenkins & Ellis from Teignmouth L Marion Farmer from Exeter, Helen Mitchell from Street \* Mrs Pamela Griffiths from Coventry. Mrs Kate Hodge from Coventry. Mrs Claire Askham from Sidmouth.

David Keeling & Rosa from Exeter LxGR Myrtle Pacey from Bridport, Malcolm Tyler from Beaminster \* Kathryn Harmer from Solihull. Mrs Lynn Richards from Coventry. Mr Aleksander Wiczorek from Leamington Spa.

Peter Liesching & Reo from Castle Cary GSD Vikki Holt from Redditch \* Sharon Faulkner from Coventry. Mrs Una Markham from Sidmouth.

Eve Lopez & Ranna from Exeter GRxL Kathy Williams from Barnstaple \* Sandra Boden from Rugeley. Mr & Mrs Pete & Louise Millard from Lutterworth. Mrs Claire Askham from Sidmouth.

Jennie Mann & Oskar from Minehead GSD Linda Richards from Swansea \* Sharon Faulkner from Coventry. Ms Claire Bewshea from Exeter.

Karenza Mason & Keats from Chard LxGR Alison Bamford-Eldson from Newton Abbot \* Jane Walters from Nuneaton. Mr & Mrs Lowe from Coventry. Ms Mikki Laphorn from Exeter.

James Maunsell & Spirit from Newton Abbot GRxL Jaqueline Meaney from Eastleigh \* Cindy McCreary from Kidlington. Mr & Mrs Mark & Samantha Edwards from Warwick. Mr Peter McCrone from Leamington Spa. Mr James Endicott from Monmouth.

Helen McCann & Poppy from Wells LxGR Rachel Guest from Bath, Jean Jordan from Bristol \* Fiona & Debbie Reedy & Baird from Evesham. Mrs Lynn Richards from Coventry. Mrs Sara Bennett from Exeter.

Maurice Mills & Wilson from Teignmouth GRxL Nicholas & Sarah Spann from Coventry \* Richard & Pamela Gregson from Derby. Dr Tom Beirne from Long Itchington. Mrs Joanne Parker from Exeter.

Gemma Sanchez & Pickle from Taunton GRxL Alistair & Emma Bowditch & Seldon from Beaminster \* Paul & Lyn Bushell from Daventry. Mrs Mary Courtney from Exeter.

Belinda Taylor & Hope from Newton Abbot GRxGSD Ian & Ann Vosper from Exeter \* Joe Bourne from Nuneaton. Mrs Alice Hallam from Exeter.

Sue Taylor & Flossie from Taunton GR Keith And Mary Dodd from Bristol \* Marie Court from Halesowen. Miss Joanne Winter from Newton Abbot.

Louise Thomas & Owen from Blaenavon LxGR \* Rebecca Jackson from Kidderminster. Dr Desislava Bacheva from Bristol.

Margaret Tregale & Blanche from Exeter GRxGR Margaret Vanes from Paignton \* Elizabeth Evans from Droitwich. Mr & Mrs Chris & Louise Neill from Alcester.

### Glasgow

Robbie Crow & Yogi from Glasgow LxGR Patricia Buchan from Aberdeen \* Lynne De Melo from Loughborough. Mrs Allyson Field from Arbroath.

Scott Cunningham & Lincoln from Larkhall L Maggie Dundas from Currie, Edith McEwan from Glasgow \* Sonia Evans from Buckingham. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester. Mrs Regina McBride from Airdrie.

Patrick Duffy & Kip from Glasgow GRxL James Walker from Edinburgh \* Janet Klaar from Stourbridge. Mrs Moyra Gibb from Larkhall.

Cheryl Feran & Flynn from Johnstone GR Pat Willis from Arbroath \* Joyce Bartlett from Rugby. Mr Adrian Claxton from Warwick. Mrs Debbie Wigham from Dundee. Mrs Sarah Sharples from Hamilton.



Lyn Hetherington & Yozi from Glasgow GRxL Elaine Morgan from Newtownards, William and Christine Gordon from Newtownards \* Jessica Macgregor from Banbury. Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mr Stuart Kemp from Belfast. Mrs Anne Millar from Larkhall.

Eleanor Lindsay & Norris from Blantyre L Jill Bruce from Inverurie \* Patrick & Lesley Wise from Coventry. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester. Mrs Ruth McKay from Forfar.

James Macdougall & Oasis from Glasgow GRxL Alison Pritchard from Banchory, Mike Berry from Inverurie \* Howard Dorrell from Worcester. Mr Paul Crowe from Kenilworth. Mrs Lesley Haynes from Forfar. Mr Thomas Gordon from Larkhall.

Elizabeth Marsden & Ivan from Dalry GRxL Lorraine Malone from Dundee \* Beryl Wyrko from Leicester. Mrs Joan Hill from Hamilton.

Donald McGregor & Bumble from Lanark LxGR Peter Pharoah from Edinburgh \* Christina Kearney from Shrewsbury. Mrs Claire Brown from Kirriemuir.

Gilbert Neil & Liberty from Kilmarnock L Michael & Jean Bird from Dumfries \* Sonia Evans from Buckingham. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester. Mr Malcolm Wake from Forfar.

Marie Scott & Koko from Larkhall LxL Amanda Smith from Arbroath \* Sue Lancaster from Bedford. Mr Geoff Whiteman from Coalville. Miss Fiona Martin from Kirkcudbright.

Rose Shields & Whispa from Glasgow LxGR Joy Tavendale from Kilmarnock \* Ms Wendy Brotchie from Glasgow.

### Hull

Michael Barker & Pearl from Hull L Craig Wasson from Belfast \* Griffith from Warwick. Mr & Mrs Lowe from Coventry. Mrs Laura Stewart from Dundee.

Shane Gibson & Dottie from Driffield GRxL Karen White from Gateshead, Alistair Peter from Hexham \* Amanda Bourne from Nuneaton. Miss Debi Cull from Manchester.

Andrew Moody & Flint from Driffield GRxL Kenneth Macgregor from Glasgow \* Jon Starkey from Malvern. Mr Paul Albrecht from Stratford-upon-Avon.

### Leeds

Leslie Baker & Prince from Sheffield L Anthony & Sheila Eagle from Darlington, Carl Wright from Ashby de la Zouch \* Angela Bass from Birmingham. Mr & Mrs Lowe from Coventry. Miss Samantha Gore from Leigh. Ms Cathy Malone from Sheffield.

Amanda Barnett & Petra from Barnsley GRxL Linda Connor from Blairgowrie \* Christina Sibbald from Wantage. Mr Keith Binding from Banbury. Ms Alison Binalle from Newcastle upon Tyne. Mrs Lorna Cudmore from Sheffield.

Maya Makri & Monty from Leeds GSD Julie Peel from Durham \* Sheena Kemp from Atherstone.

David Midgley & Storm from Northallerton GRxGSD Charlotte Wook from Saltburn-by-the-Sea \* Linda Tindall from Coventry. Ms Lorna Smith from Sheffield.

Mandy Schofield & Frazier from Bradford GRxL Jill Shillito from Mirfield \* Ben & Rhiannon Haxton & Davies from Kidlington. Mrs Catherine Egan from Worcester. Miss Cath Sweeney from Leeds.

Darren Scott & Zebedee from Whitby LxGR Bron Rawlins from Chesterfield \* Tina Warner from Warwick. Mr & Mrs Kieran & Nicola Ingham-Burroughes from Leamington Spa. Mr & Mrs Ian & Sue Lomas from Warrington. Mr James Spillings from Ripon.

Peter Sutcliffe & Leo from Keighley GRxL Anni Aydogan from Wolverhampton \* Christina Sibbald from Wantage. Mr Keith Binding from Banbury. Mr Jim Edkins from Walsall. Mr & Mrs Catherine & John Wilkinson from Manchester. Mrs Michaela Saynor from Ripon.

Linda Tait & Dot from Barnsley LxGR Audrey Adamson from Washington \* Helen Sergison from Dudley. Mr Geoff Whiteman from Coalville.

Graham Varley & Griffin from Leeds L Andrew Hudson from Leeds \* Lynn Dignan from Rugby. Miss Amanda Hancocks from Daventry. Miss Cath Sweeney from Leeds. Ms Josephine Noble-Smith from Leeds.



## New partnerships

### Liverpool

Scott Bailey & Milo from Crewe GRxGR Mark Wilson from Southport \* Michael Spelman from Coventry. Mrs Barbara Stone from Kenilworth. Miss Jenna Ryan from Liverpool.

Michael Hawksey & Crusoe from Liverpool LxGR Pamela Gardiner from Neston \* Stephen Lines from Leamington Spa. Mrs Dulcie Parry from Rugby. Miss Laura Smith from Rochdale.

Jayne Massey & Flossie from Liverpool LxGR Jennifer Wright from Congleton \* Straker from Stratford-upon-Avon. Mrs Lana Taylor from Stratford-upon-Avon. Miss Chloe McDonough from Manchester.

Joanne Redhead & Dolly from St Helens GRxGSD Hicks from Lytham St Annes \* Gloria Jayne Walton from Birmingham. Miss Chloe McDonough from Manchester.

### London

Amy Kavanagh & Ava from London GR \* Paul Dodd from Ross-on-Wye.

Christophe Lesieur & Maxwell from London GRxL Marian Jarman from Chelmsford \* Linda Langman from Axminster. Ms Isabel Howdle from London.

Christopher Lord & Casper from London GRxGR \* Lindy Howlett from Bromyard. Mr & Mrs Pete & Louise Millard from Lutterworth.

Ravi Nagardas & Hevan from Uxbridge GRxGR Anthony & Irene Collins from Sevenoaks \* Catherine Waddell from Redditch. Mr & Mrs Pete & Louise Millard from Lutterworth.

Deborah Persaud & Eve from London GRxL Lesley & James (Son) Rideout from Harlow \* Cindy McCreary from Kidlington. Mr & Mrs Mark & Samantha Edwards from Warwick.

Thomas Pey & Truffles from West Wickham L Abi Pocock from Devizes, Ella Money from Reading \* Gail Winnett from Birmingham. Mrs Lynn Richards from Coventry. Mr William Lilly from Princethorpe.

Annie Rimmer & Garnet from London LxGR Annie Hawkins from Tonbridge \* Neil Tate from Birmingham. Mr Geoff Whiteman from Coalville. Zac And Camelia O'Brien from St Albans. Miss Fabia Howard-Smith from London.

Grace Wise & Melthorne from Teignmouth GRxL Lynda Graham from Harpenden \* Susan Golding from Evesham. Mr & Mrs Chris & Louise Neill from Alcester.

### Maidstone

Anna Barham & Leah from Crowborough LxGR David Jones from Chichester \* Margaret Elaine Roberts from Stratford-upon-Avon.

Peter Butcher & Griffin from Bexhill-on-Sea GRxL Victoria Nussey from Ashford, Sue Ferguson from Gillingham, Yvonne Neary from Ashford \* Miss Stacey Donnelly from Gillingham.

Lyndall Bywater & Venus from Canterbury L Christine Burton from Hoddesdon, Jane & Tessa Lawson from Barnet \* Phillippa Dobson from Solihull. Mr & Mrs Lowe from Coventry. Mr Madis Kalda from Gravesend.

Alison May & Spencer from Dover GRxGSD Susan Franz from Cranbrook \* Trudy Evans from Coventry. Mr Simon Randall from Maidstone.

Suzanne Nicolle & Quip from Bexhill-on-Sea LxGR Sarah Jayne Pascall from Gillingham \* Peter Turton from Coventry. Miss Amanda Hancocks from Daventry.

Dawn Penny & Miller from Bexhill-on-Sea GRxL Jan Merrett from Longfield, Susan Langdon from Hartley \* Sue Wilkins from Rugby. Miss Charlotte Crayford from Sittingbourne.

### Manchester

Robert Ainsley-Raffel & Elsie from Hexham GRxGSD \* Linda Tindall from Coventry. Mrs Clare Carr from Bolton.

Michael Allen & Olga from Oldham GRxL \* Howard Dorrell from Worcester. Mr Paul Crowe from Kenilworth. Miss Rachael Flaszczak from Manchester.

Lisa Daley & Archie from Blackpool LxGR Alyson Etherington from Huddersfield \* Elaine Aworth from Northampton.

Freya Gavin & Lennon from Manchester GRxGR Pauline Gledhill from Lytham St. Annes \* Suzanne Polton from Rugby. Mrs Andrea Gill from Northampton. Mrs Faye Ormes from Bolton.

Samantha McGuffie & Kim from Bolton LxGR \* Jane Roberts from Wellesbourne. Miss Sarah Sheasby from Bromsgrove.

Katie Price & Bob from Warrington LxGR Graham Moorcroft from Derby \* Gill Moss from Banbury. Miss Amanda Hancocks from Daventry. Mrs June Cooney from Wigan. Ms Tracie Garner from Manchester.

Frank Salt & Ronnie from Rochdale GRxL Brenda Copnall from Manchester \* Steve Parsons from Cirencester. Mrs Shirley Jukes from Wigan.



### Newcastle

Sheila Brennan & Star from Newcastle upon Tyne L  
William Reid from Inverurie  
\* Mrs Dorothy Robinson from Middlesbrough.

Deborah Calvert & Ash from Guisborough GRxL  
Lynsey Stirling from Falkirk  
\* Michael Drabble-Jones from Henley-in-Arden.  
Mr Paul Albrecht from Stratford-upon-Avon.  
Miss Sarah Lohoar from Whitley Bay.

Lorna Davies & Yarren from Darlington LxGR  
Hugh & Jane Begg from Dundee \* Lynne De Melo from Loughborough.

Beth Dawes & Minty from Wallsend L Gillian Pemberton from Dunfermline \* Andrew & Ruth Roache from Solihull. Miss Lindsay Carmichael from Newcastle upon Tyne.

Peter Elliott & Elmo from Barnard Castle LxGR Elaine Osinski from Bathgate \* Mr & Mrs Straker from Stratford-upon-Avon.  
Mrs Lana Taylor from Stratford-upon-Avon.  
Ms Katie Robertson from Cramlington.

Stuart Elwin & Forest from Hartlepool GRxL  
Marina Houston from Alyth,  
Gary Lyon from Dundee \*  
Janet Paget from Rugby.

Pauline George & Faye from Gateshead GRxL  
Sheila Watt from Brechin \* Sue Walters from Stourbridge.  
Mrs Lynne Jones from Stratford-upon-Avon.  
Mrs Susan Irvine from Forfar. Mrs Sharon Warner-Reid from Sunderland.

Janet Hann & Dawson from Barnard Castle GRxL  
Eunice Harvey from Larbert \* Amanda Bourne from Nuneaton. Ms Julie Barrow from Blyth.

Patricia Harman & Isla from Jarrow GR Margaret Knox from Falkirk \* Lisa Castle from Redditch.  
Ms Alison Binalle from Newcastle upon Tyne.

Jeanette Holmes & Frankie from Newcastle upon Tyne GRxL  
Caroline Martin from Shillford \*  
Jon Starkey from Malvern.  
Mr Paul Albrecht from Stratford-upon-Avon.  
Mrs Sharon Warner-Reid from Sunderland.

Philip Moat & Snoopy from Newcastle upon Tyne GRxGSD  
Raymond Carruth from Prestwick \* Linda Tindall from Coventry.  
Mr Jonathan Brown from Sunderland.

David Scoon & Tara from Sunderland LxGR \* Peter Turton from Coventry.

Tracey Smith & Matthew from Choppington GRxL  
Samantha O'Malley from Newton Stewart \* Howard Dorrell from Worcester.  
Mr Paul Crowe from Kenilworth.  
Mr Mark Scobie from Newcastle upon Tyne.

Suzanne Todd & Bobbie from Barnard Castle GRxL  
Craig Mallery from Hexham \* Sue Walters from Stourbridge.  
Mrs Lynne Jones from Stratford-upon-Avon.

Laura Wilmot & Milo from Sunderland LXSTP  
Daniel Rooney from St. Andrews \* Mr Mike Hawting from Redcar.

### Nottingham

Keith Boddy & Ripley from Lincoln GSDxGR  
Katherine Partridge from Pershore \* Linda Mallette from Worcester.  
Mrs Dawn Herbert from Leamington Spa. Mr Gerard Belfield from Birmingham. Mrs Karen Hill from Lincoln.

Stephen Buckley & Kismet from Nottingham L Howard Lewis from Solihull \* Miss Amanda Hancocks from Daventry. Mrs Emily Gill from Birmingham. Mr & Mrs Brian & Sheila Shucksmith from Lincoln.

Ruth Douse & Crystal from Derby GRxL  
Bridget Holroyd from Bristol \*  
Mr Paul Albrecht from Stratford-upon-Avon.  
Mrs Helen Harban from Leamington Spa.

Christopher Fielding & Dottie from Worksop L  
Sarah Holt from Leicester \* Phillippa Dobson from Solihull. Mr & Mrs Lowe from Coventry. Mr Gregory Hall from Southam.

Peter Halford & Esther from Boston LxGR \* Stephen Read from Birmingham. Mrs Juanita Lyon from Lincoln.

Leonard Kenyon & Paddy from High Peak GRxL \* Donna Hunt from Lutterworth. Mr & Mrs Pete & Louise Millard from Lutterworth. Mrs Claire Duhaze from Leamington Spa. Miss Heather Gelder from Rugby. Mrs Yvonne Insley from Alfreton.

Andrew Lewis & Ivan from Derby GRxL \* Ian & Irene Scott from Warwick.  
Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mrs Joanne Careless from Warwick.  
Mr Michael Edenbrow from Nottingham.

Beverley Thompson & JJ from Lincoln GRxL \* Sharon Bailey from Tamworth.  
Mrs Caroline Rice from Nottingham. Mr Andrew Rice from Nottingham.

### Peterborough

Rachael Andrews & Ajay from Norwich LxGR  
Abigail Fraser from Gilmerton \*  
Donna Isard from Coventry.  
Miss Poppy James from Leamington Spa. Miss Polly Stone from Kenilworth.

Martine Clarke & Willow from St Neots LxGR  
Rosy Whitwell from Kidlington \* Sue Wilkins from Rugby. Mr Anthony Miles from Kettering.

Malcolm Cooper & Iggy from Cambridge GR  
Valerie Townsend from Ashford \* Miss Jacqueline Henry from Corby.

Chantelle Hughes & Lewis from Peterborough GR \* Coral Williams from Evesham.

Susan Jones & Clover from Market Deeping LxGR  
Emma Caudell from Southampton \* Mary Edwards from Warwick. Mrs Pauline Belton from Didcot.

Amy Ottaway & Jerry from Norwich L Karen Chittenden from Orpington \* Lin Lisle from Alcester.  
Ms Joanne Emery from Peterborough.

Diane Wilson & Zen from Royston LxGR  
Isabel Pereira from Auchterarder \* Lucy Cooper from Stratford-upon-Avon.  
Ms Wendy Medicott from Coventry. Mrs Liz Gilbert from Leamington Spa.  
Mrs Laraine Locklin from Rothwell. Mr Anthony Miles from Kettering.

Margaret Wilson-Hinds & Florence from Peterborough GR  
Hannah Mitchener from Waterlooville \* Paul Dodd from Ross-on-Wye.

### Reading

Martin Charters & Jenny from Bicester LxGR \* Leslie Johnson from Redditch. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester. Mr Daniel Williams from Bracknell.

Philip Edwards & Pip from Sunbury-on-Thames GRxL  
Valerie Jordan from Kidlington \* Philip Crowther from Evesham. Mr & Mrs David & Cathy Harman from Reading.

## New partnerships

Mark Graham & Velvet from Epsom GR Christopher Dickens from Tenterden \* Helen Cookes from Nuneaton. Mr Ian Standing from South Woodford. Ms Rachel Nall from Reading.

### Shrewsbury

Terry Burling & Nixon from Rowley Regis L Malcolm Essl from Sunderland \* Patrick & Lesley Wise from Coventry. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester. Mr Robert O'Connor from Manchester. Mrs Jacky Ruston from Telford.

Kirsty Hill & Cleo from Wem GRxL Carol Harris from Kingsbridge, Carol Townsend from Plymouth \* Samantha Howkins from Towcester. Mrs Carol Townsend from Plymouth. Mrs Jane Cornish from Warwick.

Daniel Letchford & Rosina from Smethwick GRxGSD \* Joe Bourne from Nuneaton. Mrs Diane Bamber from Bolton. Mrs Moira Gardner from Shrewsbury.

Eleanor Roberts & Cally from Newport LxGR Kathleen Underwood from Telford \* Stuart Toulson from Bridgnorth. Miss Deepal Desai from Manchester. Mr Paul Richards from Shrewsbury.

Meredith Vivian & Gerry from Church Stretton LxGR Donna Howson from Rotherham \* Amber O'Brien from Warwick. Rev Craig Grocock from Leamington Spa. Mrs Linda Entwistle from Bolton.

Neil Walls & Payton from Walsall GRxL Catherine Lazenby from Bingley, Ruth Rogers from Bingley \* Miss Holly Moreland from Manchester.

Joan Wray & Wicksie from Rugeley LxGR Keith Wasden from Rotherham \* Mrs Karen Lee from Shrewsbury.

### Southampton

Peter Bungay & Stevie from Christchurch L Iain & Carol Lonsdale from Corsham \* Philippa Dobson from Solihull. Mr & Mrs Lowe from Coventry. Mr & Mrs Gordon & Eleanor Watson from Southampton. Mr Duncan Barrett from Southampton. Mr & Mrs Nick And Bianca Porter from West Moors.

Charlotte Fitzgerald & Bowker from Eastleigh GRxL \* Hilary Cooke from Bromsgrove. Mrs Catherine Egan from Worcester.

Hazel Roberts & Maple from Poole GRxL Shaun Williams from Leamington Spa \* Cindy McCreary from Kidlington. Mr & Mrs Mark & Samantha Edwards from Warwick. Mr Mick Canham from Coventry. Mr Steve & Emma White from Eastleigh. Jenny & Scott Bolton & Soper from Ferndown.

Jo Speer & Unice from Dorchester GRxL Jane Poole from Ilminster \* Natasha Aylott from Birmingham. Mrs Lynne Jones from Stratford-upon-Avon. Mrs Nicola Merrick from Eastleigh. Mrs Jennifer & David Gunter from Ferndown.

### Welwyn Garden City

John Cooper & Toodles from Borehamwood LxGR Dale Oliver from Stamford, Thomas Keenan from Cambridge \* Linda Sheehan from Evesham. Mrs Julie Trent from Leicester. Mrs Lorraine Leith from Loughton.

Diane Disbury & Nevis from Basildon GRxL Christopher Matthews from Hornchurch \* Donna Hunt from Lutterworth. Mr & Mrs Pete & Louise Millard from Lutterworth. Mrs Jane Pearce from St. Albans. Mrs Gillian Herbert from Loughton. Miss Jade Brooke from Chelmsford.

Peter Keens & Innis from Kempston GRxL Geraldine & Peter Blackman from Chelmsford \* Ian & Irene Scott from Warwick. Mr Michael Rudge from Solihull. Mr Che McDermott from Ilford.

Andrew Kennedy & Sullivan from Gravesend L \* Mrs Pamela Griffiths from Coventry. Ms Patricia Richardson from Barking.

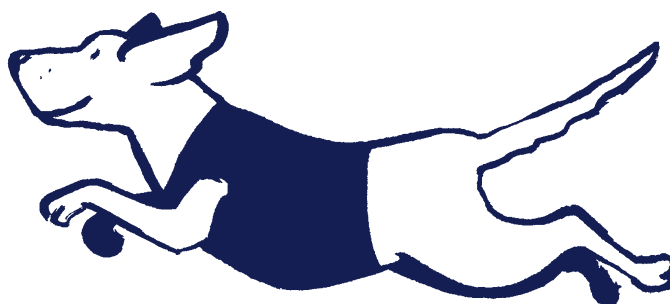
Graham Kuschel & Lucas from Bexleyheath GRxL Ben Horner from Berkhamsted \* Barbara Williams-Cooke from Banbury. Mrs Brenda Weaver from Brentwood.

Jane Pennick & Andy from Brentwood GR \* Paul Dodd from Ross-on-Wye. Mr & Ms Yvonne & Ryan Foley from Ilford.

Wendy Purcell & Ash from Luton GRxGR Karen Meeson & Bethany East from St Leonards-on-Sea \* Elizabeth Evans from Droitwich. Mr & Mrs Chris & Louise Neill from Alcester. Mr Brian Rice from Woodford Green.

Jacqui Ray & Cracken from Great Dunmow GRxL Jonathan Lovett from Leigh-on-Sea. \* Mr Paul Albrecht from Stratford-upon-Avon.

Kevin Weaver & Zack from Southend-on-Sea L Amanda Franks from Swindon, Rebecca Pinfold from Newbury \* Marie Lee-Hopps from Redditch. Mr & Mrs Lowe from Coventry. Miss Joanne Bell from Ilford. Miss Jade Brooke from Chelmsford.



## Breeding Stock Qualifiers

Alba \* 27.10.20 \* GR \*  
Bitch \* Mrs K Harmer  
from Solihull. Mr & Mrs  
DA Miller from Plymouth.

Asha \* 30.03.21 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mrs C Sibbald from  
Wantage. Mrs S Faux from  
Bridgwater. Mrs Sharon  
Broer from Coventry.

Bailey \* 25.11.20 \* L \* Bitch \*

Bella \* 01.12.20 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mr & Mrs I Scott from  
Warwick. Mrs H Baird  
from Belfast. Miss Sarah  
Sheasby from Bromsgrove.

Bella \* 30.03.21 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mr & Mrs Davis from  
Leicester. Mrs A Gardner  
from Worksop. Mrs M  
Baker from Collingham.  
Miss Sarah Sheasby  
from Bromsgrove.

Bernie \* 15.03.21 \* L \*  
Bitch \* Mrs S Kite from  
Birmingham. Mrs H Evans  
from Redditch. Mr & Mrs  
Collier from Warwick.

Clover \* 28.10.20 \* GRxGR  
\* Bitch \* Dr M Jones from  
Leicester. Mr & Mrs Chris &  
Louise Neill from Alcester.

Cohen \* 05.11.20 \* GR  
\* Stud \* Mrs B Holroyd  
from Bristol. Mr Paul  
Crowe from Kenilworth.

Cookie \* 01.12.20 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mr & Mrs J Nixon from  
Warwick. Miss D Cameron  
from Dunfermline.

Cooper \* 19.10.20 \* L \*  
Stud \* Mrs L Yates from  
Northampton. Mrs E  
Holding from Leamington.

Dan \* 25.01.21 \* L \* Stud \*  
Mr M Drabble-Jones from  
Henley-in-Arden. Mrs H  
McEvoy from Liverpool.

Dottie \* 01.12.20 \* GRXL  
\* Bitch \* Mrs S Davy from  
Oldbury. Mrs J Smith  
from Wirral. Mr Michael  
Rudge from Solihull.

Ellie \* 11.12.20 \* GR \*  
Bitch \* Mr L Johnson  
from Redditch. Mrs  
K Batchelor from  
Manchester. Mrs Andrea  
Gill from Northampton.

Elsarh \* 22.09.20 \* GSD  
\* Bitch \* Ms J Webb  
from Wolverhampton.  
Mrs LH Sutton from  
Monmouth. Mrs Carol  
Evans from Kingswinford.

Errol \* 22.09.20 \* GR  
\* Stud \* Mrs L Monk  
from Worcester. Mrs V  
Welsh from Chippenham.  
Mr Paul Albrecht from  
Stratford-upon-Avon.

Heather \* 15.03.21 \* L  
\* Bitch \* Mr H Dorrell  
from Worcester. Mr &  
Mrs B & G Weatherall  
from Nottingham. Mrs  
Caroline Terry from  
Leamington Spa.

Henry \* 21.10.20 \* L  
\* Stud \* Mr H Dorrell  
from Worcester. Mrs J  
Sydserff from Sheffield.

Holly \* 24.09.20 \* GRxGR  
\* Bitch \* T Jeynes &  
Robson from Pershore.

Imber \* 22.03.21 \* L \*  
Stud \* Miss S Hicks from  
Solihull. Mrs M Burt from  
Kinross. Mrs Pauline  
Belton from Didcot.

Jade \* 21.10.20 \* GSD  
\* Bitch \* Mrs T Evans  
from Coventry. Mrs R  
Milner from Edinburgh.  
Mrs Victoria Rash  
from Kenilworth.

Jaiden \* 25.01.21 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mr & Mrs S Brett from  
Welwyn Garden City.

Johno \* 01.12.20 \* L \*  
Stud \* Miss N Durrant  
from Redditch. Mrs Pauline  
Belton from Didcot.

Kandy \* 23.10.20 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mrs A Williamson from  
Stratford-upon-Avon. Mrs  
J Castle from Minehead.  
Mr & Mrs Tom & Jane  
Hargrave from Daventry.

Kola \* 25.01.21 \* GRxGR  
\* Bitch \* Mrs G Telford  
from Northwich. Mr  
Paul Albrecht from  
Stratford-upon-Avon.

Ladywell (Lady) \* 25.01.21  
\* GSD \* Bitch \* Mrs S Kemp  
from Atherstone. Mrs J  
Bau-Mann from Romford.

Lottie \* 05.11.20 \* L \* Bitch \*  
Ms E Emms from Stratford-  
upon-Avon. Mrs P Brown  
from Montrose. Mr & Mrs  
Tom & Jane Hargrave from  
Daventry. Miss K Gunn  
from Leamington Spa.

Mack \* 05.11.20 \* L \*  
Bitch \* Dr S Allen from  
Nottingham. Mrs L Venters  
from Auchterarder. Miss  
Clare Powell from Evesham.

Mary \* 22.12.20 \* GSD  
\* Bitch \* Mrs T Evans  
from Coventry. Mrs  
L Kavanagh from  
Chelmsford. Mrs Victoria  
Rash from Kenilworth.

Nelly \* 11.12.20 \* GR \*  
Bitch \* Mrs G Manning  
from Hornchurch. Mr Paul  
Crowe from Kenilworth.

Nessa \* 30.03.21 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mr & Mrs Davis from  
Leicester. Miss Sarah  
Sheasby from Bromsgrove.

Ozzy \* 25.11.20 \* GR \* Stud  
\* Mr Paul Albrecht from  
Stratford-upon-Avon.

Pierre \* 25.11.20 \* GR \*  
Stud \* Outside Bred \* Mr &  
Mrs M Hone from Solihull.

Puds \* 11.12.20 \* GRxGR \*  
Bitch \* Dr M Jones from  
Leicester. Mr J Wilson from  
Crewe. Mr & Mrs Chris &  
Louise Neill from Alcester.

Sadie \* 15.03.21 \* GR \*  
Bitch \* Mrs L Mallette from  
Worcester. Mr J Emmett  
from Burton upon Trent.

Sparky \* 22.09.20 \* GR  
\* Bitch \* Mr & Mrs K  
Griffiths from Derby.  
Mrs J McLoughlin  
from South Ockendon.  
Mr & Mrs Wetherell  
from Bromsgrove.

Tia \* 11.12.20 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mrs H Cartwright  
from Cambridge. Mrs G  
Bane from Cambridge.  
Mrs Kim Roberts from  
Stratford-upon-Avon.

Tom \* 21.10.20 \* GSD \*  
Stud \* Outside Bred \*

Tori \* 15.03.21 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mrs Kim Roberts from  
Stratford-upon-Avon.

Tula \* 28.10.20 \* L \* Bitch  
\* Mrs L Langman from  
Axminster. Mrs D Shute  
from Morpeth. Mrs Sally  
Thomas from Worcester.

Vienna \* 25.11.20 \* L \*  
Bitch \* Mr R Wilkes from  
Telford. Miss E Gorvett  
from Newport. Mrs Pauline  
Belton from Didcot.

Vita \* 25.01.21 \* GR \*  
Bitch \* Mr S Lines from  
Leamington Spa.

Yvette \* 10.11.20 \* GR  
\* Bitch \* Mrs A Malec  
from Cheltenham. Mr C  
Campbell from Falkirk.  
Mr Paul Albrecht from  
Stratford-upon-Avon.

# Flying support for Guide Dogs!



One Saturday in 1989, my husband and I went into Basingstoke from the Hampshire village in which we lived. We saw two men selling raffle tickets to raise money for the first cross-channel microlight flight. Always keen to go up in the air in anything, I asked if they would take me up for a flight.

Dressed in a padded suit, gloves and a helmet, off we went from Popham Airfield; pilot in front and excited me behind. We flew over Hampshire in perfect weather.

I thought it would be good to use the event to raise some money for charity. For no

particular reason, I decided on Guide Dogs. Although I only raised £21, I was invited to Reading to be presented with a framed photograph of a puppy called Apollo, so named because I flew into the sun.

Then in 2017, I was in Cheltenham town centre when I spotted four men fundraising for Guide Dogs. After speaking to them, I decided to sponsor a puppy and have done so ever since. I currently sponsor Willow, the prettiest puppy I've had. And to this day, that photo of Apollo hangs among others of my aerial adventures.

**Dr Anne Dunn**

## Caption competition



Puppy Rex was only eight weeks old when this adorable picture was taken of him investigating Puppy Raiser Eric Booth's veg box in Bristol.



The last competition winner is Sue Wolohan, from Peterborough in Cambridgeshire, with the caption "Is this what it means to have the hare of the dog?" Congratulations, Sue!

### What would you caption this photo?

Send your suggestions to: Forward, Guide Dogs, Hillfields, Burghfield Common, Reading, RG7 3YG or email [forward@guidedogs.org.uk](mailto:forward@guidedogs.org.uk) with your name, address and a daytime phone number. The winner gets a £10 Marks and Spencer voucher.

#### Competition rules

This competition is open to anyone resident in the UK, except employees of the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association, their families and anyone connected with the competition. No purchase necessary. Proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery. No responsibility can be accepted for entries delayed, damaged or mislaid or wrongly delivered. Illegible entries will be disqualified. Only one original entry is allowed per envelope. The winners will be notified by either post or telephone and the results will be published in the next issue of the magazine. The winners must agree to the publication of their names, photographs and any publicity, if requested. In all matters concerning the competition the Editor's decision is final. No correspondence can be entered into. Entry implies acceptance of the rules. The closing date for the competition is **31 August 2021**.

# Royal Canin saves guide dog owner hours of counting kibble!

Teresa Reading lives in the West Midlands with her guide dog Baden and is one of 200 guide dog owners taking part in a weight management pilot project funded by our partner, Royal Canin. The project involves giving out talking digital scales so people with sight loss can accurately measure their dog's food, helping them to manage the weight of their guide dogs.

Before getting the scales, it took Teresa at least 10 minutes every day to count 200 pieces of kibble individually for her guide dog Baden. That's 427 hours in total since she got Baden seven years ago!

Teresa was aware of the importance of feeding Baden the correct amount but sometimes found this tricky. She said: "If I was distracted by the phone or doorbell when counting, sometimes I had to



start all over again. If I spilt any kibble I had to recount!"

Now it takes Teresa a fraction of the time each day. She said: "The scales are the best thing I've ever had – after Baden, of course! I am so grateful to Royal Canin."

Talking about the impact of the project, Martyn Cherry, PRO National Key Account Manager at Royal Canin, said: "It feels so good that as a business we continue to make a difference in people's lives by supporting this simple task that we take for granted."



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Players are supporting our new standardised guide dog training programme through the funding of new staff dedicated to delivering this training, including 20 Guide Dog Mobility Specialists. Players have also provided funding for an entire litter of guide dog puppies, who are currently undergoing their formal guide dog training!





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